MARCH 2017 DELIVERED MONTHLY TO 3,350 HOUSEHOLDS MARCH 2017 DELIVERED MONTHLY TO 3,350 HOUSEHOLDS ON PARADE ON PARADE THE OFFICIAL MARLBOROUGH PARK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

LADIES' NIGHT OUT MARCH 10, 2017 MARLBOROUGH PARK CENTER 6021 MADIGAN DR NE

DROP-IN DARTS

\$4.00 EVERY THURSDAY AT THE LOUNGE 19:00 TO 22:00

BECOME A BETTER COMMUNICATOR AND LEADER VIBRANT SPEAKER'S TOASTMASTER CLUB MEETS

EVERY MONDAY 19:00 21:00

EXCEPT LONG WEEKEND

NEXT BOARD MEETING MARCH 8, 2017 AT 19:00

www.marlpark.ca

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Each day 15 Canadians get the devastating news that their kidneys have failed. Join us in a movement that is changing the face of kidney disease.



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MARLBOROUGH PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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The Marlborough Park Community Association and Great News Publishing do not endorse any person or persons advertising in this newsletter. Publication of any advertisements should not be considered an endorsement of any goods or services.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS	911
Alberta Adolescent Recovery Centre	403-253-5250
Alberta Health Care	403-310-0000
AHS Addictions Hotline	1-866-332-2322
ATCO Gas – 24 Hour Emergency	403-245-7222
Calgary HEALTH LINK 24/7	811
Calgary Police – Non Emergency	403-266-1234
Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter	403-234-7233
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-387-5437
Kids Help Line	1-800-668-6868
Child Safe Canada	403-202-5900
Distress/Crisis Line	403-266-4357
ENMAX – Power Trouble	403-514-6100
Poison Centre - Alberta	1-800-332-1414
HOSPITALS / URGENT CARE	
Alberta Children's Hospital	403-955-7211
Foothills Hospital	403-944-1110
Peter Lougheed Centre	403-943-4555
Rockyview General Hospital	403-943-3000
Sheldon M. Chumir Health Centre	403-955-6200
South Calgary Urgent Care Health Centre	403-943-9300
South Health Campus	403-956-1111
OTHER	
Calgary Humane Society	403-205-4455
Calgary Parking Authority	403-537-7000
SeniorConnect	403-266-6200
Calgary Kerby Elder Abuse Line	403-705-3250
Alberta One-Call Corporation	1-800-242-3447
City of Calgary	311
Social Service Info & Referral	211
Community Mediation Calgary Society	402 260 2707

Community Mediation Calgary Society

RNR Lockworks Ltd.

Weather Information

Gamblers Anonymous

Road Conditions – Calgary

403-269-2707

403-479-6161

403-237-0654

511

MPCA COMMUNITY NEWS

President's Message

As I started to write this month's President Message is was minus 29 outside today, a couple of days later its plus 7. What crazy weather we are having.

There will be a *Ladies Night Out* on Friday March 10, 2017, this evening is for all the ladies. So, ladies come out and enjoy some unique shopping focused on women.

Sunday June 4th is **Community Clean up** always looking for volunteers to help us.

Just to make everyone aware, 17^{th} Ave SE will be under construction for the next little while, the stores and shops will still be open. Traffic in the area might be a bit of a challenge.

This being the month for the Irish, I will leave you with an Irish Blessing;

An Irish Blessing rom May your croubles be less and your blessings be more And nothing but happiness come through your door



I would like to share with everyone a poem that was written by Jennifer Canu-Budd, enabling us to participate with Federation of Communities and Enmax Energizing Spaces Fund.

As a board, we hold our community near and dear, We are proud to say we celebrated our 40th year. With a hall that so many people call home, And have parties that rival those at the Saddledome.

There's always a challenge that comes with age, It seems like things like to break with rage. From roof to sewers, to hvac and floor, Every time we turn, we seem to find more.

And then there's the day where the fridges don't work, We worry our renters will not respond with a smirk. For those fridges are used every day of the week, Without them, our world was seeming quite bleak.

When it seemed like we wouldn't afford the cost, And it appeared we'd have to cope without frost. We find a group that brings nothing but hope, They might just have a way for us to cope.

With almost 20 years of caring service, Enmax is there to care and unnerve us. They came to the rescue without a thought, But do they understand that they helped us a lot?

Our community now can continue to flourish, At parties and events, we can continue to nourish. To Enmax, with all our hearts, we give you our thanks, In our book, you are on top of all the ranks.

Thank you, Jennifer Canu-Budd for the poem and Leiana Hazard for submitting all the paper work. Marlene Frederick, President



www.carolwarawa.ca



Marlborough Park Community Association

6021 Madigan Drive NE • Phone: 403-248-1775 • Fax: 403-273-9194

Marlene Frederick	403-569-9573
John Jirikowic	
Bill Jones	403-850-1670
Jennifer Canu-Budd	403-475-3855
Leiana Hazard	403-248-8406
John Canu	
Denyse Chabot	403-248-5931
Bill Jones	403-850-1670
Mario Deshaies	403-204-1130
Kathy Canu	
Nina Decaire	403-248-8610
Jennifer Canu-Budd	403-475-3855
Denyse Chabot	403-248-5931
Tracey Fredrick	403-569-9573
Denyse Chabot	403-248-5931
	John Jirikowic Bill Jones Jennifer Canu-Budd Leiana Hazard John Canu Denyse Chabot Bill Jones Mario Deshaies Mario Deshaies Kathy Canu Nina Decaire Jennifer Canu-Budd Denyse Chabot

Assistant Directors

Mary Ryan | Mitch Jones

Community Centre Administrator		403-248-1775
LIAISONS		
Guides	Meredith Barclay	403-874-7297
Friday Crib	Virginia Savage	403-366-3042
Loma Seniors	llene Miller	403-450-9827
Preschool Regist	403-235-2996	403-248-1775
Scouting	Main office	403-283-4993
Police Services Dist 4	Cst. Chris Langham	403-428-6400 Email: pol4413@calgarypolice.ca



Marlborough Park Community Association Board Meetings are held in the community board room the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. The next Marlborough Park Community Association Board Meeting is on March 8 at 7:00pm.

> **Editorial** Content **Deadline** or the next nonth's issue



Seniors' Sentiments

The City of Calgary promotes the Snow Angel program, which encourages "Neighbors helping Neighbors." If you have a neighbour that is unable to shovel their sidewalk, be a good neighbour and do it for them. It also keeps the bylaw officers away.

There are several seniors and those with disabilities who need help, which is why there is a program in place. For this program to thrive, we need HELP! We as a Community encourage you to get involved, what better way, than to help a neighbour clear the sidewalk.

Block Watch

All meetings are in the lounge at the hall. If you notice suspicious activity in your area please call the police non-emergency line 403-266-1234. If you see a crime in progress please call 911 immediately.

If you have any questions contact Mary Ryan at 403-974-3204. Thank you for your support of our community!

> **Marlborough Park Block Watch** Next meeting Mar. 8, 18:45

> > Break and Enter - residence: 1

recovery) - 7

Theft – general property; 1 Theft of Vehicle (includes





It's a sure thing!

Sign up to receive **FREE** Prenatal Vitamins and ongoing support.

Talk to our Pharmacy team for more information.

Brought to you by **Jobey** Pharmacy



One of the biggest challenges of mental illness is feeling alone.

With SupportWorks, it doesn't have to be.

We host weekly drop-in peer support meetings throughout Calgary to help people living with:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) • Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Bipolar Disorder

For more information on meeting times and locations, visit SupportWorks.ca



Join us at the Marlborough Park Community Association for our 6th Annual Ladies Fair. This year the theme will be

Death By Chocolate!



Located at 6021 Madígan Dríve N.E. Fríday, March 10th

5pm to 10pm

This is a truly unique shopping experience that combines a variety of lady focused vendors with a girls-night-out atmosphere!

\$4.00 admission gives you access to 30+ vendors, 🙀 a free snack, cash bar, musíc, prízes and more!

MPCA COMMUNITY EVENTS

LOMA Whist Club

Loma Whist club meets every Wed at 1:00 pm year round. \$3.00 each, no partner required, no membership dues for the Whist Club. Community membership appreciated.

Two or three meals per year on the club. All welcome. For more information please call the hall at 403-248-1775 or llene at 403-450-9827.

If you are interested please call Marlborough Park Community Centre at 403-248-1775 for more information or drop in at 6021 Madigan Drive NE.

Toastmasters Vibrant Speakers

Become a better communicator and leader. Hone your speaking, listening and criticism skills in a friendly atmosphere. Vibrant Speakers Toastmaster Club meets every Mondays (except long weekends) at the Marlborough Park community meets every Monday 19:00 - 21:30. For more information call Mario Deshaies at 403-204-1130 email address (mariodeshaies@hotmail.com).

Drop in Crib

Join us at the hall for adult drop in crib every Monday night from 19:00 - 21:30. Everyone welcome.

Drop in Darts

Drop-in Dart \$4.00 Every Thursday at the Lounge 19:00 to 22:00

Drop In Tai Chi Is held every Tuesday from 9:15 to 10:15 am.

Drop-in Volleyball Wednesday evening, \$4 each

Jelly Bean Dance April 7, 2017, 18:30- 21:30

50+ Skating at Ernie Star Arena 4808 14 Ave S.E Tuesday-Thursday 09:00 to 11:30

Seniors Crib Club

The Friday Seniors Crib Club meets every Friday at 1pm in the Activity Room at the Marlborough Park Community Centre.

There is a good payout each week, and special prizes through the year. During the Christmas season and June each year the Club members go out to one of the local fine dining restaurant for a meal. We celebrate birthdays with a luncheon twice a year.

The Club runs from September through June, no registration fees, Community memberships appreciated. Please contact Virginia Savage at 403-366-3042.

Canadian Blood Services

June 9 from 16:00 to 20:00 You have to call 1-888-236-6283 To register: https://blood.ca/en



Bingo News

MAR. 20/17 MONDAY SATURDAY APR. 1/17

FVFNING 4:30PM TO 9:30PM FVFNING 4:30PM TO 9:30PM

Good Food Box

Date money Due: March 13, 2017 Box arrival: Friday March 23, 2017



IN & AROUND SCHOOLS

Marlborough Park Preschool News

February has been a busy month for the preschool. The preschoolers loved going to Space Port at the International Airport on a group field trip. They learned what it is like to live in space, all about the stars and constellations.

In March we will be focusing on who is a community helper and about healthy eating. The classes will have a fun Green Day around St. Patty's Day.

We will all be enjoying a lovely break from March 24^{th} to April 3^{rd} as this is our spring break.

Registration for September 2017 Starts April 1st and we will be having an Open House on Wednesday April 5th from 6pm-8pm.



FITNESS CAN BE FUN!

Check out Calgary's most warm and welcoming adult dance studio DANCE THROUGH LIFE



ADULT CLASSES BEGINNER TO ADVANCED WORKSHOPS

Ballet · Zumba · Tap Hip Hop and More!

Private & Corporate parties

403-921-9757 www.dancethroughlife.ca Visit us at Evergreen Community Spaces 1709 8th Ave NE



Suzanne Smith-Demers – Consultant

Did you know that Colonel Sanders didn't create the Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise until he was 65? If you have a passion that you'd like to turn into a business during retirement here's what you need to know:

Your passion becomes your product If you're ready to turn your passion into a retirement career be aware that you may come to look at your passion differently, especially when things may not be going too well. The keys are to be honest with yourself about the potential for your business and to work equally hard at staying motivated.

Know the risks and challenges Your business idea is brilliant, but it is also risky – so protect your retirement savings by keeping your start-up costs to a minimum and avoiding heavy debt. Avoid leasing office space or hiring employees until you absolutely have to.

Test the market If your new venture includes a new or different product or service; test the market before you make any rash decisions. Start with the most basic version of your product or service and sell it economically, perhaps online through social media sites, and gauge customer feedback to decide if your business venture makes financial sense.

Keep it simple Finance your business with money you can afford to lose. If you find yourself tempted to tap into your retirement account to fund your business, take it as a warning that you're probably about to get into something you're not financially prepared for.

Creating a retirement business from your passion could end up being the most satisfying and rewarding life decision you have ever made. Make sure you have all the information before you take the first step into your new career.

IN & AROUND CALGARY

Responsible Pet Ownership in Parks

With spring right around the corner, dog owners are getting outside and enjoying the pleasant weather and spending time with their family, friends and pets. This time is more enjoyable for the entire community when dog owners understand and follow the regulations in the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 23M2006. The bylaw helps to ensure that dogs are not being a nuisance in the community and dogs and citizens are safe.

Community Standards (formerly Animal & Bylaw Services) would like to remind dog owners of the following:

- When off of their owner's property, dogs must be on a leash unless in a designated off-leash are.
- When in designated off-leash areas, dog owners must ensure their dog is under control, is within their sight and responds to commands
- Dogs must be on leash in parking lots adjacent to offleash areas
- Owners are responsible for picking up all waste produced by their dog
- Dogs are not allowed in school grounds, playgrounds, sport fields, golf courses, cemeteries, wading and swimming areas, and other areas prohibited by sign.
- Owners cannot cycle, in-line skate or skateboard on a pathway with a leashed dog
- Have and wear a City of Calgary licence when the dog is three-months-old

When we respect the bylaw we contribute to a safer and healthier community.

Thank you for being responsible dog owners and valued community partners.

For more information about the Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw, visit calgary.ca/animalservices or contact 311.

VOLUNTEERING Good for the Soul

EMS – Burns and Scalds

Alberta Health Services, EMS continue to respond to emergencies each year where a young child has sustained severe burns or scalds. These incidents often occur inside the child's own home. Common causes include a child accidentally tipping hot liquids onto themselves, touching hot surfaces (stoves), or making contact with electrical outlets. Fortunately, incidents such as these can be avoided by taking preventative measures.

Degrees of burn

- 1°: Affects only the top layers of the skin; appears red like a sun burn; discomfort is generally tolerable;
- 2°: Deeper and much more painful than 1°burns; broken skin or blisters commonly develop;
- 3°: Severe: the deepest layers of skin and tissue are injured; may appear charred or leathery. First Aid for burns
 - st Ald for burns kin may continue to
- Skin may continue to burn if not aggressively cooled. Immediately douse burns with large amounts of cold water.
- Cover the burn with a sterile dressing, or at least clean material to protect infection;
- Over the counter medications may be used for pain. Adhere to directions given on the label;
- Seek further medical attention, as required.

Prevention of burns

- Check the temperature of your hot water tank. Temperatures as high as 60° C / 140° F will scald a child in just seconds;
- Use placemats instead of tablecloths. Tablecloths can be yanked downward causing hot drinks, or food to spill on a child;
- Turn pot handles to the back of the stove and ensure cords from kettles, slow cookers, and other electrical appliances cannot be reached;
- Avoid picking up a child while holding any hot liquids;
- Ensure electrical outlets are made secure by installing commercially available safety devices which prohibit access;
- Keep children away from areas where appliances are in use (kettles, irons, hot stoves).

If you require immediate medical attention, call 9-1-1



YE tie

arocery-mart

YES. Bundle all stretchy plastic bags together in one bag and tie the handles closed. Put in your blue cart for recycling:

> - Grocery bags - Bread bags - Shopping bags - Dry cleaner bags - Sandwich/lunch bags - Plastic stretch wrap - Ziploc®/freezer bags - Bubble wrap

No single or loose plastic bags.
 No crinkly bags like cereal or cracker bags.
 No food pouches

NO. Do not recycle these items:

Why do plastic bags need to be bundled together? Plastic bags are sorted by workers rather than machines at the recycling facility. Bundling your plastic bags and wrap together makes it easier for the workers to separate it for recycling. It also prevents the bags from jamming equipment and contaminating the other recyclables.



mybabysitter.co



PARENTS Visit mybabysitter.ca and find available babysitters in and around your community.

REAL ESTATE COUNCIL OF ALBERTA



I heard that if someone calls themselves a "contractor," they don't need to have a licence to provide property management services. Is that true?

No, that's not true. The truth is it doesn't matter what a person calls themselves. If they are providing property management services and they are not the owner of the property or an employee of the owner, they require a licence from the Real Estate Council of Alberta (RECA).

The *Real Estate Act*, which RECA administers, defines property management as:

- leasing, negotiating, approving or offering to lease, negotiate or approve a lease or rental of real estate;
- collecting or offering or attempting to collect money payable for the use of real estate;
- 3. holding money received in connection with a lease or rental of real estate; and
- 4. advertising, negotiating or any other act, directly or indirectly for the purpose of furthering the activities described in items 1-3.

Licensed property managers can find suitable tenants, deal with nuisance tenants, draft lease agreements, and regularly inspect and maintain property on behalf of a property owner. It is up to property managers and the property owners to negotiate the specific tasks the property manager will provide, but ultimately, before providing property management services, the property manager needs a licence.

Property manager licensing provides vital protection for property owners. Individuals must complete comprehensive education before becoming licensed as a property manager, they must also provide a Certified Criminal Record Check to RECA prior to receiving a licence, and there are ongoing education requirements.

If a property owner is working with a licensed property manager, they have the added protection of the Consumer Compensation Fund. The Fund compensates consumers who suffer a financial loss as a result of fraud, breach of trust, or a failure to disburse or account for money held in trust by an industry member in connection with a real estate trade, mortgage deal, or property management services.

If you work with an unlicensed property manager, and the property manager disappears and takes rental payments or damage deposits with them, your only recourse is through the courts.

As a property owner, you're not required to hire someone to manage your rental or investment property, but if you do, take steps to protect yourself. Ensure that the company and individual you hire are licensed to provide property management services in Alberta. You can check if someone is licensed through RECA's website at www.reca.ca.

"Ask Charles" is a monthly question and answer column by Charles Stevenson, Director of Professional Standards with the Real Estate Council of Alberta (RECA), www.reca. ca. RECA is the independent, non-government agency responsible for the regulation of Alberta's real estate industry. We license, govern, and set the standards of practice for all real estate, mortgage brokerage, and real estate appraisal professionals in Alberta. To submit a question, email askcharles@reca.ca.



Deadline – 1st of each month for the next month's publication Contact news@great-news.ca

Free announcements: lost/found, household items for sale, wanted, garage sale, student/senior services, etc. Forty word limit



Membership Application Attention! Privileges

MPCA has some well known secrets to tell everyone. Can't wait? Here they are: • we have lifetime memberships for seniors 60 years plus for ONLY \$10 and you only pay ONCE. • show your card and you receive a discount at the following store

Dairy Queen -- Madigan Plaza 5% off

Optics Plus -- Madigan Plaza 20% off

Village Square Leisure Centre Monday night Community Association night 30% off

UPS store -- Trans Canada Mall 5% off in store services

Subway- Abbeydale 10% Off

Remedy RX Pharmacy, memorial Square,4A,5268 Memorial Dr N.E

10% for over the counter products

Royal Memories Photo Booth offer 20% off at MPCA function and 10% at any other location. Clover Paint is now offering wholesale pricing

GET INVOLVED!

Marlborough Park Community Association Membership Application

Name

Address____ Postal Code

Telephone (Day)

E-mail Address_

... \$20 nov family wards AND \$10 nov conies 60 year

Membership fees: **\$20 per family yearly** AND **\$10 per senior 60 years plus lifetime** Memberships expire August 31, 2017

Make cheques payable to: **Marlborough Park Community Association** Mail completed application to:

> Marlborough Park Community Association www.marlpark.ca 6021 Madigan Drive NE Calgary, AB, T2A 5G9

Good Reasons To Join Your Local Community Association

Programs And Services For All Ages – Preschoolers To Seniors Your community association offer programs directly or provide support to other organizations offering programs such as Girl Guides and Scouts. Community associations also partner with the City of Calgary to offer such programs as Park n Play and Youth programs. Community associations may also provide support services to residents in need as now shoveling for seniors.

Sports

Your Community Association offers organized sport opportunity for children, also for adults of all ages.

Community Safety

Block Watch, and bicycle safety programs are examples of how community associations ensure safety in the neighborhood.

Special Events

Many events are provided throughout the year which provides families an opportunity to meet others in the community and have some fun. Events include stampede breakfasts, craft fairs, community cleanup, book fairs, Easter egg hunt, Halloween party, jelly bean dances for the kids, and many others.

Awareness And Responsive To Planning And Development Issues

The community association makes every effort to keep track of development and planning proposals in the areas such as transportation, roads, park and playground development and traffic issues. The City of Calgary consults with the community association on these issues.

Community Newsletter

The community association communicates to the residents the activities, programs and services that are happening in the community through a regular newsletter.

Facility Operations And Rentals

Many community associations operate a facility that is available for programs, meetings, social and private functions. Outdoor ice rinks and tennis facilities are also maintained for the benefit of the community residents.

Membership Has Its Privileges

Membership does have its benefits such as; Toole Peet Insurance will provide special group rates for all community association members, percentage discounts at Dairy Queen, Optics Plus, Village square Leisure Centre, and Mark's Work Warehouse.



Have a book you would like to recommend? The more books you recommend, the more personalized this list becomes. Email us at news@great-news.ca

BEST BOOKS OF 2016

(compiled by Goodreads)

Fiction

Truly Madly Guilty, Liane Moriarty End of Watch, Steven King The Underground Railroad, Colson Whitehead Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, J.K. Rowling It Ends with Us, Colleen Hoover Morning Star, Pierce Brown The Fireman, Joe Hill

Nonfiction

Hamilton: The Revolution, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Jeremy McCarter When Breath Becomes Air, Paul Kalanaithi Leonard: My Fifty-Year Friendship with a Remarkable Man, William Shatner, David Fisher Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are, Frans De Waal Cravings, Chrissy Teigen Adulthood is a Myth, Sarah Andersen The Princess Saves Herself in this One, Amanda Lovelace The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo, Amy Schumer

Young Adult Fiction

Salt to the Sea, Ruta Sepetys Court of Mist and Fury, Sarah J. Maas

Middle Grade and Children's

The Trials of Apolla, Rick Riordan *The Thank You Book*, Mo Willems



HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY: Clinicair is the leading provider of Indoor Air Quality and Medical Grade Duct Cleaning services in Canada. We are looking for a dealer in Calgary to represent our growing company. We offer a royalty free business. Clinicair supplies you with the latest technology, and training. Call Craig: 1-416-277-6067.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CONFLICT? Community Mediation Calgary Society (CMCS) is a no cost mediation and conflict coaching service that can help you resolve problems and restore peace! We help neighbours be neighbours again! www.communitymediation.ca, 403-269-2707.

FLAMINGO MUSIC: accepting students for Piano, Guitar, Violin, Bass, Drums, Voice, RCM, and Band. Ages 4 to adult. Open 7 days per week. Special needs welcome. Band nights, field trips, and performance opportunities. Starts at \$70-75 per month. Phone 587-470-7988 or e-mail info@flamingomusic.ca.

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RBC Group Advantage is a comprehensive program designed to help business owners meet their employees' financial needs by providing:

- In-person financial advice for all employees
- Group retirement savings plans
- Comprehensive and discounted banking solutions

Support your employees and keep your competitive advantage. Call Investment Advisor Michael Martin at 403-266-9655 to learn more.



There's Wealth in Our Approach.™

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Marlborough Park Real Estate Update Last 12 Months Marlborough Park MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
January 2017	\$384,900	\$370,000
December 2016	\$0	\$0
November 2016	\$349,900	\$335,000
October 2016	\$375,700	\$364,450
September 2016	\$379,450	\$371,500
August 2016	\$384,800	\$370,000
July 2016	\$396,400	\$385,000
June 2016	\$327,950	\$339,000
May 2016	\$358,975	\$345,500
April 2016	\$339,900	\$333,200
March 2016	\$330,000	\$320,000
February 2016	\$388,000	\$373,500

Last 12 Months Marlborough Park MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
January 2017	5	3
December 2016	3	0
November 2016	5	4
October 2016	5	6
September 2016	3	2
August 2016	7	7
July 2016	10	2
June 2016	6	6
May 2016	5	1
April 2016	1	6
March 2016	4	3
February 2016	5	3

To view more detailed information that comprise the above MLS averages please visit **marlpark.great-news.ca**

Helping Your Child, but Letting Them Lead

It can take some time for many young children to get into the routine of using a toilet.

By Doug N Horner, Alberta Health Services

Making the switcheroo from diapers to the toilet is a big, albeit sometimes messy, milestone for children and parents alike. For toddlers, learning to use a toilet is about being ready, controlling muscles and getting acquainted with an enormous porcelain artifact that makes loud and unpredictable gurgling noises. The toilet can appear to children as a powerful, portal-like device—many fear getting flushed into oblivion.

As toddlers are learning to exercise control, parents wrestle with a lack of control. Petra Debow, a parent educator with the Family Centre in Lethbridge, suggests that patience sets the foundation for a potty-positive experience.

"Most children learn to use the toilet between the ages of two and three," says Debow, adding that every child learns at their own pace. Wait for your child to be curious about the toilet and to be aware they're peeing or pooping.

Catherine Young—a nurse and mother expecting her third child in February—says her first two children's education in toileting began only "when they had an interest in it and they seemed ready." Toddlers will also express discomfort at having a soiled diaper. In many respects, the bathroom becomes a realm where the child takes the lead.

Attentiveness is crucial for parents. Watch for clues that your child needs to go, such as stopping what they are do-

ing, fidgeting or saying: "Oh, oh." But parents also need to feel prepared. Debow recom-

mends setting aside time. If you have relatives visiting, a big deadline at work or are in the middle of a kitchen renovation, you may want to wait. There's no need to rush.

"Prepare yourself mentally and put all the other things aside for a couple of weeks until it's dealt with," Debow says.

Plan to help your child with this developmental leap when you can be enthusiastic and supportive about the trek from diaper to toilet.

Young says she also borrowed several books from her local library—she recommends *Once Upon a Potty* by Alona Frankel in particular—after her kids showed interest in the toilet. She and her husband also made the bathroom more familiar and less intimidating.

It can take some time for many young children to get into the routine of using a toilet, explains Debow. And staying dry at night often takes longer.

If you and your child try toileting for two weeks and make little progress or your child is resisting, Debow suggests a break. "You don't want to push it so it turns into a negative thing."



Winter/Spring 2017 New Friends & Neighbourhood Groups Calgary Immigrant Women's Association



Practice English and make new friends

- Sessions run from September to December and January to June
- Join anytime

Contact:

Free childcare (6 months - 6 years)



Debra Colley at (403-444-1752) or debrac@ciwa-online.com

Thornhill Group (Judith Umbach Library)	Shawnessy Library Group
6617 Centre Street N (Judith Umbach Library)	333 Shawville Blvd S.E (Program Room)
Mondays 10AM - Noon (Jan 9 - June 19)	Mondays 1-3 PM (Jan 9 - June 19)
Manchester Group	Varsity Group
5717 2nd Street SW (2nd Floor Program Room) Tuesdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 10 - June 20)	4612 Varsity Drive N.W (Varsity Acres Church Cafe) Tuesdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 10 - June 20)
Beddington Group	Fish Creek Library Group
16 Bermuda Drive N.W (Agape Language Centre) Tuesdays 1-3PM (Jan 10 - June 20)	11161 Bonaventure Drive S.E (Program Room) Tuesdays 1-3 PM (Jan 10 - June 20)
Westbrook Group (Nicholls Family Library)	Bowness Group
1421 33 Street SW (Program Room) Tuesdays 1-3 PM (Jan 10 - June 20)	4712 21st Avenue N.W (New Life Church Basement) Wednesdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 11 - June 21)
Edgemont Group	Marda Loop Group
224 Edgeburn Lane N.W Wednesdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 11 - June 21)	3818 14A Street S.W (River Park Church - Room 110) Wednesdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 11 - June 21)
Saddletowne Library Group	CIWA Evening Group - Ongoing all year round Free Childcare (19 months - 6 years)
7556 Falconridge Blvd N.E (Program Room) Wednesdays 1-3PM (Jan 11 - June 21)	138 - 4th Avenue S.E (Room 232) Wednesdays 5-7 PM
Ranchlands Group	Village Square Library Group
7750 Ranchview Dr NW, Unit #23 (NW Islamic Centre) Thursdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 12 - June 22)	2623 56th Street N.E (Library Program Room) Thursdays 10AM - Noon (Jan 12 - June 22)
Forest Lawn Library Group	Chinatown Group
4807 8th Avenue S.E (Program Room) Thursdays 1-3 PM (Jan 12 - June 22)	114 - 3rd Avenue S.E (Room 208) Fridays 1-3 PM (Jan 13 - June 23)

Community Arts & Activities Centre Fun stuff for the whole family! Check out what's on at:

ecspaces.com

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